

## Multiple-choice cloze (Part 1)

For questions 1–8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

### To sell or not to sell?

You may think selling your house is easy but everyone wants to get the (0) C best deal. Unfortunately, the housing market is (1) ..... to highs and lows, which could prevent your (2) ..... the price you want. However, displaying your house at its best could persuade (3) ..... buyers it's worth paying more for than a similar one nearby. Here are some simple steps you can take that might (4) ..... a sale.

De-clutter and throw away or store superfluous stuff. It may have sentimental value for you but to a buyer it's junk. Tidy shelves and work surfaces. (5) ..... most buyers will renovate a house as soon as they move in, it is worth (6) ..... up the place by painting, replacing worn carpets and so on. The look you want is neat but lived in – comfortable and cosy but suggesting that there is still (7) ..... for a purchaser to put their own (8) ..... on the house. It's your home and you love it but the trick is to make others love it, too!

- |                |              |              |            |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| 0 A nicest     | B biggest    | C best       | D richest  |
| 1 A liable     | B subject    | C acceptable | D part     |
| 2 A succeeding | B winning    | C achieving  | D managing |
| 3 A developing | B unrealised | C potential  | D capable  |
| 4 A clinch     | B fix        | C verify     | D stick    |
| 5 A But        | B Despite    | C However    | D Although |
| 6 A doing      | B getting    | C making     | D working  |
| 7 A space      | B room       | C place      | D capacity |
| 8 A idea       | B brand      | C character  | D stamp    |

### 3 Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

deep    husky    soft    squeaky

- 1 She has such a ..... voice I find it difficult to hear what she's saying.
- 2 She speaks in a high ..... voice – a bit like a mouse!
- 3 His voice is very ..... and low – he's easy to recognise!
- 4 Whenever I get a cold, I get a sore throat and my voice sounds quite .....

## Open cloze (Part 2)

For questions 9–16, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

### Communication gone too far?

We are keen to keep in touch with friends at (0) all hours of the day or night – and tweeting has become a mainstream form of communication. But (9) ..... it really appropriate in all situations?

Many tweeters have a strange urge to post their reactions to things as quickly as possible, to avoid being thought of as behind the times. But (10) ..... if in a theatre, people tweet during the performance itself, thereby ruining it for those around them? It's hard to imagine a live theatrical experience as anything (11) ..... than devalued when half the audience can be seen in the glow of their phone screens, tweeting away (12) ..... of following the play. But the success of a performance requires the audience to (13) ..... attention.

Some US theatres have (14) ..... matters into their own hands (15) ..... designating some sections as 'tweet seats', well away from others. Nevertheless, when even part of the audience is inattentive – doing something (16) ..... composing a thought in a tweet – it affects the whole atmosphere.

### 2 Choose the correct answer (A, B, or C) to complete each sentence.

- 1 It's important to be able to ..... small talk in social situations.  
A make    B deliver    C give
- 2 It can be hard to ..... a conversation going if no one will add anything else.  
A continue    B hold    C keep
- 3 The politician ..... a great speech at the conference.  
A said    B delivered    C led
- 4 It's great to meet friends and ..... a chat with them.  
A get    B make    C have
- 5 Universities often run clubs where they ..... debates on important issues.  
A hold    B do    C give

## Word formation (Part 3)

For questions 17–24, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits the gap in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0).

### My favourite place

This may be a surprising choice as it's not comfortable or obviously (0) appealing. I'm sure many people gravitate towards the (17) \_\_\_\_\_ of Venice or the beauty of Sydney but the place that does it for me is a remote valley in Iceland. Far from anything man-made, it was created by a violent natural catastrophe. It would have been a challenging place to live under any circumstances but thousands of years ago a volcanic (18) \_\_\_\_\_ under a glacier caused a flood that carved out a huge canyon. (19) \_\_\_\_\_ walls of rock on either side protect the valley from the (20) \_\_\_\_\_ of the ferocious Arctic winds. Here a forest has grown up in a (21) \_\_\_\_\_ area of calm. I find it has its own (22) \_\_\_\_\_ identity, which some may find (23) \_\_\_\_\_ or even threatening. However, it draws me back time after time. I stay in the campsite and it gives me a new perspective on my everyday life. It makes me appreciate the formidable power and (24) \_\_\_\_\_ force of nature!

APPEAL

GRAND

ERUPT

TOWER

STRONG

SHELTER

ATMOSPHERE  
PLEASE

ESCAPE

## Key word transformations (Part 4)

For questions 25–30, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between three and six words, including the word given. Here is an example (0).

### Example

- 0 Once I understood the question, I could answer it.

### ONLY

It was only after I had understood the question that I could answer it.

- 25 It's six years since I moved here.

### BEEN

I \_\_\_\_\_ six years.

- 26 My study is full of papers – I can't get another thing on the desk!

### ROOM

There is \_\_\_\_\_ on my desk!

- 27 It's the first time I've seen such a beautiful painting!

### BEFORE

Never \_\_\_\_\_ such a beautiful painting!

- 28 She didn't listen to my idea at all and refused to consider it.

### DISMISSIVE

She \_\_\_\_\_ my idea and refused to consider it.

- 29 I absolutely forbid you to tell anyone about the plan.

### NO

Under \_\_\_\_\_ tell anyone about the plan.

- 30 I understand what you are saying but I can't agree.

### POINT

I can't agree, although \_\_\_\_\_.

## 1 Find and correct the mistakes with articles.

- I love talking to the friends; we often meet just to chat.
- Good conversation involves listening to other people's ideas and responding to them with the ideas of your own.
- My favourite holiday destination is United States – it's such a diverse country.
- I often listen to a radio discussions – people have such interesting opinions and it's often worth downloading the podcast to listen to the discussion again.
- Being sensitive to others when taking part in a general discussion is useful quality to have.